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INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-11 ISO-00 STR-04 COME-00 LAB-04

TRSE-00 AGR-05 CEA-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00 FRB-03 H-02

INR-07 INT-05 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 AID-05

CIEP-01 SS-15 ITC-01 PRS-01 SP-02 OMB-01 OIC-02

SIL-01 FEA-01 NSCE-00 SSO-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 AF-06

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TAGS: ETRD, MTN

SUBJECT: AMENDED GUIDANCE FOR FEBRUARY 16 TROPICAL PRODUCTS GROUP (TPG) MEETING

REF: (A) STATE 31557; (B) MTN GENEVA 975; (C) MTN GENEVA 933

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1. INTERAGENCY TROPICAL PRODUCTS GROUP APPRECIATES CLARI-

FICATIONS PROVIDED REFTEL B AND EXPECTS FORMAL TPC STRUCTURE CLEARANCE TOMORROW FOR THE GUIDANCE PAPER, INCLUDING THE CHANGES GIVEN BELOW TO THE GUIDANCE CONTAINED IN REFTEL A.

2. SUBSTITUTE THE FOLLOWING FOR PARA 5 OF REFTEL A: GUIDE-LINES. FORM AND CIRCULATION OF U.S. OFFER: THE U.S. DEL SHOULD PROPOSE AND SEEK SUPPORT FOR A PROCEDURE WHEREBY EVERY COUNTRY MAKING AN OFFER WOULD PRESENT VIA THE SECRETARIAT INDIVIDUAL NOTIFICATIONS TO EACH COUNTRY TO WHICH THEY WOULD MAKE OFFERS AND WHAT THEY WOULD OFFER TO EACH COUNTRY. THE PROCEDURE ALSO WOULD ALLOW THOSE COUNTRIES WHICH WISH TO GIVE A SINGLE OFFER LIST TO ALL COUNTRIES TO DO SO WHILE ANY OTHER COUNTRY COULD USE ITS OFFERS TO INDICATE SELECTIVELY TO REQUESTING AND OTHER COUNTRIES WHAT OFFERS IT WAS PREPARED TO NEGOTIATE SPECIFICALLY WITH THE

PARTICULAR COUNTRY AND FOR WHICH IT WOULD BE EXPECTING CON-TRIBUTIONS. THUS ANY COUNTRY COULD BE INFORMED OF OFFERS ON ALL PRODUCTS OF INTEREST TO IT WITHOUT BEING INFORMED OF OFFERS ON PRODUCTS OF INTEREST TO OTHER COUNTRIES. THIS LATTER APPROACH COULD REDUCE, AT LEAST INITIALLY, THE LIKE-LIHOOD THAT LDCS WOULD BE ABLE TO COMBINE FORCES TO PRESS FOR CONCESSIONS REGARDING PRODUCTS ON WHICH THEY HAD NOT BEEN MADE OFFERS AND THUS EXCHANGE SUPPORT. THE APPROACH WOULD ALSO ALLOW AN OFFERING COUNTRY TO PRESENT AN OFFER TO DC'S AND NON-REQUESTING LDC'S ON ITEMS OF TRADEINTEREST TO THEM. THIS PROCEDURE WOULD HAVE THE FURTHER ADVANTAGE OF MAKING CONSOLIDATION OF OFFERS ON A PRODUCT BASISDIFFI-CULT FROM A PRACTICAL STANDPOINT AND OFFICIALLY UNACCEP-TABLE SINCE THE INDIVIDUAL OFFERS WOULD BE CONFIDENTIAL NEGOTIATING DOCUMENTS. EQUALLY IMPORTANT, THIS PROCEDURE WOULD KEEP THE FOCUS OF NEGOTIATIONS ON A BILATERAL BASIS WHEREAS A SINGLE COMPREHENSIVE OFFER LIST BY EACH COUNTRY WOULD ENCOURAGE LDC BLOC NEGOTIATIONS WHICH WE HAVE BEEN TRYING TO AVOID. IN THE EVENT THAT THIS APPROACH IS NOT ACCEPTED BY OTHER DEVELOPED COUNTRIES AND IS STRONGLY OPPOSED BY THE LDC'S, THE U.S. DEL MAY AGREE TO A PROCE-DURE WHEREBY EACH OFFERING COUNTRY WILL TABLE A SINGLE OFFER LIST WHICH MAY BE CIRCULATED TO ALL PARTICIPANTS. LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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WE EXPECT THAT OUR PREFERRED PROCEDURE MAY NOT BE ACCEPTED BY THE TPG BECAUSE SOME OTHER DEVELOPED COUNTRIES MAY WANT GENERAL RECOGNITION OF THE BREADTH OF THEIR OFFERS AND ARE NOT PLANNING, AS IS THE U.S., TO SEEK CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE MTN FROM LDCS FOR THEIR CONCESSIONS IN THE TPG. MORE SIGNIFICANTLY, LDCS CAN BE EXPECTED TO INSIST UPON SEEING THE TOTAL EXTENT OF EACH DEVELOPED COUNTRY'S OFFER. MOREOVER, IF THIS ISSUE GENERATED CONTROVERSY OVER THE

WHOLE ISSUE OF LDC CONTRIBUTIONS IN THE TPG, THEN SOME LDCS WHICH HAVE INDICATED PRIVATELY THAT THEY ARE PREPARED TO MAKE CONTRIBUTIONS MIGHT FEEL CONSTRAINED TO TAKE PUBLIC POSITIONS OF OPPOSITION TO ANY CONTRIBUTIONS. IF SUCH CONTROVERSY RESULTED IN AN LDC AGREEMENT THAT ON THE BASIS OF THIRD WORLD SOLIDARITY NO DEVELOPING COUNTRY SHOULD MAKE ANY CONTRIBUTIONS, OR AT LEAST NOT BEFORE THE CONCLUSION OF THE MTN, A SERIOUS IMPASSE TO THE TPG COULD RESULT

3. U.S. DEL WILL NOTE THAT WE HAVE NOT INCORPORATED SUGGESTION REFTEL B THAT PRODUCTS COVERED IN OUR GSP WHICH APPEARED ON REQUEST LISTS WOULD BE IDENTIFIED WITH NOTATION "NO INITIAL OFFER." RESPONDING IN THIS WAY TO REQUESTS THAT HAPPENED TO BE COVERED BY OUR GSP AND NOT RESPONDING AT ALL TO SOME OTHER REQUESTS WOULD BE INCONSISTENT. WE DO NOT WANT TO TAKE ON AN OBLIGATION TO REPLY

FORMALLY TO ALL REQUESTS AS DISCUSSED IN REFTEL A. FURTHERMORE, WE BELIEVE THAT THE LESS FORMAL REFERENCE WE MAKE TO GSP IN THE TROPICAL PRODUCTS NEGOTIATIONS, THE STRONGER WILL BE OUR CASE FOR INSISTING ON NEGOTIATIONS WITH LDC CONTRIBUTIONS.

4. THE FOLLOWING ADDITION TO PARA 11 OF REFTEL A SHOULD BE INSERTED FOLLOWING THE HEAD NOTE: IF THE INDIVIDUAL NOTIFICATION PROCEDURE IS ADOPTED BY THE TPG, UNCTAD SHOULD NOT RECEIVE THE OFFERS EVEN THOUGH THE GATT SECRETARIAT WILL HAVE THEM. THE GATT SECRETARIAT IN CONTRAST TO THE UNCTAD SECRETARIAT IS CHARGED WITH THE MANAGEMENT AND ADMINISTRATION OF THE MTN. THERE SHOULD BE NO REASON TO DISCUSS ANY UNCTAD RECEIPT OF OFFER LISTS UNDER THE INDIVIDUAL NOTIFICATION PROCEDURE, BUT IF THE MATTER IS LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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RAISED, THE U.S. DEL MAY NOTE THAT THE NOTIFICATIONS ARE CONFIDENTIAL NEGOTIATING DOCUMENTS AND THAT UNCTAD SECRETARY GENERAL COREA IN HIS FIRST REMARKS TO THE TNC INDICATED THAT UNCTAD RECOGNIZED THAT THERE WOULD BE CONFIDENTIAL NEGOTIATING DOCUMENTS TO WHICH UNCTAD WOULD NOT BE PRIVY. THE U.S. DEL MAY ALSO IF IT APPEARS NECESSARY STATE THAT WE HAVE NO OBJECTION TO INDIVIDUAL DEVELOPING COUNTRIES REQUESTING UNCTAD ASSISTANCE IN ANALYZING OFFERS MADE TO THEM. WE WOULD, OF COURSE, EXPECT UNCTAD IN THESE INSTANCES TO RESPECT THE CONFIDENTIALITY OF THESE OFFERS AND KEEP THEM FROM OTHER COUNTRIES, THE PUBLIC, AND USE BY ANY SECTION OF THE UNCTAD SECRETARIAT FOR PURPOSES OTHER THAN TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE TO THE INDIVIDUAL LDC. IN THE EVENT THAT THE SINGLE COMPREHENSIVE OFFER LIST PROCEDURE IS ADOPTED BY THE TPG, UNCTAD SHOULD

BE ALLOWED...

5. WITH REGARD TO REFTEL C, WE CONCUR MTN DEL MAKING FORMAL REQUEST OF GATT SECRETARIAT FOR CHANGE RE GSP IN DOCUMENT MTN/TP/W/6/ADDL. DATED FEBRUARY 6. KISSINGER

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